

## **Albuquerque/Bernalillo County Department of Senior Affairs**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** 

CONTACT: Anthony R. Romero (505) 977-4565

Thursday, May 23, 2013 ❖ 1:00 pm − 3:00 p.m.

## **Department of Senior Affairs Foster Grandparent Program Recognizes Volunteers**

ALBUQUERQUE - The City of Albuquerque Department of Seniors Affairs will recognize close to 90 volunteers who serve our community through the Foster Grandparent Program. The recognition event will take place on Thursday, May 23, 2013, at 1:00 p.m. at the New Mexico Veterans' Memorial Center (1100 Louisiana Blvd., SE). Foster Grandparents have provided more than 80,000 volunteer hours to children and young people with exceptional needs. Foster Grandparents work one-on-one with special-needs or at-risk children, under the supervision of a teacher or other site professional. Volunteer settings include schools, shelters, hospitals, detention centers and pre-schools. Foster Grandparents receive monthly training and may volunteer as much as 25 hours a week. Income-eligible volunteers may receive a stipend and limited transportation is available to some sites. Mayor Berry said, "The grandparents that volunteer not only make a huge impact on the child they are assigned to, but the Teacher, classroom, and site as a whole."

The Corporation for National and Community Service is a federal agency that engages more than five million Americans in service through programs such as Senior Corps and AmeriCorps. Senior Corps taps into the rich experience, skills, and talents of the 55+ population. Through grants and other resources, including the energy and efforts of citizens aged 55 and over, Senior Corps helps meet the needs and challenges of America's communities.

To learn more about the Foster Grandparent Program, call (505) 764-6412.

###

Anthony R. Romero, Social Services Division Manager

City of Albuquerque Department of Senior Affairs Barelas Senior Center 714 7<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102 o (505) 764-6406 c (505) 977-4565 arromero@cabq.gov